ROBERT L. EHRLICH, JR., Governor

JOINT RESOLUTIONS SIGNED by the PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE and the SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES

Joint Resolution No. 1

(House Joint Resolution No. 1)

A House Joint Resolution concerning

Judicial Compensation Commission Report

FOR the purpose of proposing an alteration to providing for the compensation of the members of the Judiciary in this State, pursuant to Section 1–708 of the Courts and Judicial Proceedings Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland.

WHEREAS, Section 1–708(b)(2) of the Courts and Judicial Proceedings Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland establishes a seven-member Judicial Compensation Commission appointed by the Governor with two members appointed on nomination of the President of the Senate, two members appointed on nomination of the Speaker of the House of Delegates, one member appointed on nomination of the Maryland State Bar Association, and two members appointed at large. The Judicial Compensation Commission is constituted as follows: appointments made on the nomination of the President of the Senate: John Paterakis and Elizabeth Buck; appointments made on the nomination of the Speaker of the House of Delegates: Laurence Levitan and Charles R. Jenkins, Sr.; appointment made on the nomination of the Maryland State Bar Association: J. Michael Conroy, Jr.; appointments at large: Annette J. Funn and Alice G. Pinderhughes. The Commission members elected Laurence Levitan Chairman; and

WHEREAS, Section 1–708(d) of the Courts and Judicial Proceedings Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland provides as follows: the General Assembly may amend this Joint Resolution to decrease any of the Commission's salary recommendations, but no reduction may diminish the salary of a judge during the judge's continuance in office. The General Assembly may not amend this Joint Resolution to increase these recommended salaries. Should the General Assembly not adopt or amend this Joint Resolution within 50 days of its introduction, the salaries recommended herein shall apply during fiscal years 2005 through 2008. Should the General Assembly reject any or all of the salaries herein recommended, the salaries of the judges so affected shall remain unchanged during fiscal years 2005 through 2008 and 2006 unless modified under other provisions of the law; and

WHEREAS, The Judicial Compensation Commission held two meetings in October and December 2003. The Commission considered many aspects and facets of judicial compensation. The Commission by a vote of five or more of its members has recommended judicial salaries for fiscal years 2005 through 2008; now, therefore, be it